

SULZER ASKS REPEAL OF HASTY BOND ACTS

Finds He "Misunderstood" Laws Just Signed to Widen State Securities Market.

SEEKING TO UNDO DAMAGE

Brown Declares Governor's Mind "Unsound," While Wagner Introduces Measures to Wipe Out the Laws.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Albany, April 28.—While Senator Brown, Republican leader of the upper house, was denouncing Governor Sulzer to-night as showing "unsoundness of mind" in having hastily signed acts which would cost the state from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 in increased interest on bonds, Governor Sulzer was taking steps to have those bills repealed.

Senator Brown had already introduced a bill to repeal one of them. This, coming from a Republican, of course, was shelved. But when Senator Wagner, Democratic leader, came along with a similar bill and a companion one designed to undo the rest of the damage, his measures were advanced to the order of final passage. They will be held there until information can be obtained from the Controller as to the results of the laws they would repeal.

The laws which the Governor now wants to wipe off the statute books originated in the Controller's department, and were ostensibly intended to facilitate the sale of state bonds. One exempted state bonds from the inheritance tax law. Another provided that companies liable to a franchise tax should be exempt from that tax to the extent of 15 per cent of the par value of all 3 per cent state bonds owned by them and one-half of 1 per cent on all bonds bearing interest between 2 and 4 per cent. In other words, 2 per cent bonds became, to those favored owners, 4½ per cent.

Senator Brown, introducing a bill to repeal the act providing for rebate on the franchise tax through increased interest on the bonds, declared to-night that "the Governor's mind seems to wander. Nothing has showed it to be so unsound as the signing of this bill."

A few minutes after Mr. Brown had finished his speech Senator Wagner introduced bills to repeal both the bond facilitators.

"The Governor feels that he misunderstood the purport of the bills when he requested their passage," said Mr. Wagner, "and desires to have them repealed. He has given an emergency message to facilitate the passage of these repeal bills."

Lavon Purdy, Tax Commissioner of New York City, who was here to-night, declared that the bond acts would cost the state about \$500,000 a year. He criticized them as "very ill advised, since they set up favored classes to receive their benefits—savings banks, stock companies and insurance companies—while other holders of state bonds of the same issues would not be benefited."

The Governor decided to have the laws repealed after a long conference to-day with Mr. Purdy, Deputy Controller Walsh and others. He said new laws were needed to facilitate the sale of state bonds, but the Fawcett measures contained too many defects to remain on the statute books.

OLDEST PURSER QUITS SEA

John Rennie Here on Last of Trips of 2,604,000 Miles.

John Rennie, oldest purser of the Atlantic, who has crossed the equator 426 times on voyages that aggregate 2,604,000 miles, ended his sea career yesterday with the arrival of the Lamport & Holt liner Vasari from Buenos Ayres.

The veteran purser, who bears a striking resemblance to ex-President Taft, will be sixty-seven years old on May 3. During his forty-seven years at sea he has met thousands of American travelers, and on his arrival yesterday he received letters from many cities of the country asking him to spend a few days with the senders before returning to his home in Wales.

The Vasari brought north 157 saloon passengers, the majority of whom had travelled many times with Mr. Rennie. They knew the voyage was his last and they planned a gift for him before the journey ended. When the vessel was one day out from Bahia Mr. Rennie happened to come down late to dinner. As he entered the dining saloon everybody rose and sang "Auld Lang Syne."

Then Judge Thomas Kearney, of Milwaukee, plunged into a presentation speech. Presently he lifted a napkin from the table, revealing a large plate covered with one hundred English sovereigns. In presenting it to the veteran, he said: "This is a gift from your friends, the passengers. It is their expression of good will to you, the veteran of the sea, and the Grand Old Man of the Sea."

Mr. Rennie said he would visit friends in Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago and Buffalo before returning to Wales.

GOVERNOR REBUKED WITHOUT A PROTEST

Not One Voice Raised in Sulzer's Defence as Two Senators Scathingly Denounce His Conduct.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Albany, May 28.—Without a word of protest from any member of the Senate, two Senators administered severe and unprecedented rebukes to Governor Sulzer to-night. Not a word was spoken in his defence. Nothing like it has taken place in the Senate in many years, except the equally vigorous rebuke to him when the Senate, without a word of debate, unanimously rejected as unfit his nomination of Milton E. Gibbs to be a member of the State Hospital Commission.

Senator Brown began it to-night by introducing a bill repealing a law just signed by the Governor, and making this an excuse to review the entire executive career.

"A good many people say the Governor is crazy," said Senator Brown. "I am not prepared to admit that. We must differentiate between acts which are crazy and a mentality which is crazy. I know these people cite symptoms which ordinarily accompany unsoundness of mind. They say the Governor is subject to hallucinations. He has, for instance, the hallucination that he is Henry Clay. That tends to show that he is of unsound mind, to be sure, for Henry Clay was a great man. Then, again, the Governor has a hallucination that he is Silas Wright. But he is surely wrong there, for I find from the messages of Silas Wright that he expressly declined to decide for the Legislature what was the dictate of public opinion. I need not dwell on the difference in tone between his communications to the Legislature and Governor Sulzer's."

"The Governor says he follows in the footsteps of Governor Hughes. Let me announce publicly that he will drive out of the party and out of office men who do not agree with him on a question of legislation. There was never anything like that in Governor Hughes's course of action."

"They say one of the symptoms of a loss of balance of mind is to go back on lifelong friends and associates, even on members of your own family. It is possible for a man so to deceive himself as to believe in the existence of conditions precisely the opposite of what he is practicing."

Then Senator Brown quoted the Governor's oft-repeated declaration for economy, and described the "perfect riot" of increases in salary and salaries positions for which the Governor was responsible.

Senator Blauvelt was the second Senator to attack the Executive. His remarks came after the Governor's veto of the Blauvelt direct primary bill calling it a farce, a fraud and the like, had been read.

"My first impulse," said Blauvelt, "was to dignify this message with a reply justifying our work on this bill. But the message itself, its language, its thoughts, are unworthy such a reply. This Senate knows how honestly and earnestly we worked to keep the privilege of our party platform for direct primary, and how hard we tried to meet the situation in every county of the state."

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"LACE KING'S" WIFE ASKS PERMANENT ALIMONY

Mrs. Wolf-Stens, Former Actress, Says Husband Left Her Destitute in Europe.

THEN SUED FOR DIVORCE

Defendant Alleges Spouse Deprived Him of "Necessary Sheets and Pillow Cases to Sleep Comfortably."

Justice Giegericht reserved decision yesterday on the motion of Mrs. Thea Wolf-Stens, formerly a well known actress on the German stage and the daughter of a high official of the Austrian government, for permanent alimony in her separation suit against William Stens, a lace merchant, whom she married in 1883, when she gave up her professional career.

Mrs. Wolf-Stens alleged abandonment and non-support, declaring that Stens failed to provide for her, although he was receiving from \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year from the American representative of Hoyer, Rosch & Co., lace and embroidery manufacturers, of Switzerland. According to the wife, the defendant represented to her before their marriage that he was the "lace king" in New York.

Mrs. Wolf-Stens has been receiving \$15 a week alimony. The plaintiff's father is the director of the Royal and Imperial Board of Accounts, in Vienna, and Royal and Imperial Commissioner of Regents for the Science of Governmental Auditing. He also is a chevalier of the Order of the Iron Crown. Mrs. Wolf-Stens was a member of the Stadt Theater, in Hamburg, and when Joseph Kainz, a popular German actor, came to this country she played the part of Juliet, in "Romeo and Juliet." She also supported Matkowsky.

And then there appeared another Romeo in the person of Stens. But he was not the consistent lover of Juliet, as Shakespeare pictured him, for, as Mrs. Wolf-Stens complained, her husband abandoned her three years after their marriage. The Vienna actress was not yet twenty-two years old when she married Stens. He was forty. She said in her complaint she had "achieved high distinction" in her profession and was earning a high salary. She rejected Stens's first proposal. He pursued her to Europe and renewed his suit, and she finally accepted him.

The separation of the couple comes as a sequel to a long standing domestic feud, which had its actual beginning when Stens, during the absence of his wife in Europe, brought a suit for divorce against her at a time when she was destitute and nearly starving, although after several years Stens discontinued this action.

The plaintiff said she had saved 7000 gulden from her professional work, which she gave him and which he has never returned. Stens said his wife had a violent temper, and on occasions called him "swindler," "second-rate" and other such terms as best led themselves to the German language, and that she also broke her umbrella on his hand, all of which Mrs. Wolf-Stens denied.

At the time of their marriage, said the complaining wife, her husband gave her no money toward the payment of the household expenses, which she had to defray from her own money. After about a month he allowed her \$15 a week for all household expenses, including the wages of a servant, although he spent more than \$100 a year for cigars.

At a subsequent period the couple lived at the St. George Hotel, in Brooklyn, when the defendant gave the plaintiff only \$15 a week for meals. Another complaint of the wife was that after he left his wife in Europe he told her he lived in the Hotel Naegel, Hoboken; that he associated with a Swedish girl, that he went with her on the same steamer to Europe; that she was a very beautiful girl, with a beautiful skin and golden curls—like a Christkind. The plaintiff also mentioned a vaudeville singer.

Stens said in his answer to his suit that his wife abused him, deprived him of his "necessary sheets and pillow cases to sleep comfortably," and thus shows at him, to Mrs. Wolf-Stens replied it was so seldom that her husband came home that his bed was sometimes not prepared for his unexpected coming. Stens denied most of the allegations of his wife.

On the argument before Justice Giegericht yesterday for permanent alimony, Stens said he had received a legacy on the death of his mother, but that much of the money had already been advanced and some of it went to settle debts. He said he had been earning \$5,000 a year, but that now he was not making sufficient to pay any alimony. Stens told about entertaining customers at the expense of \$2,000 a year while he was getting \$5,000, sometimes spending as much as \$100 on a single customer.

Mr. Hofer, a son of the senior member of the Swiss firm by which Stens was employed, testified that this large expenditure for the entertainment of customers was hardly possible. "That is not business, but graft," said Hofer. He added: "Our customers are mostly Americans, and they don't want to be treated like that. They want only good merchandise at the right prices."

FIXED POST CRITICISED

Municipal Research Bureau Condemns System.

In a voluminous report submitted to the Curran committee the Bureau of Municipal Research has attacked the fixed post system, Waldo's pet police "reform," and the entire distribution of the police force.

"The fixed posts as now located throughout the Borough of Manhattan and portions of The Bronx and Brooklyn should be abolished," is one recommendation that the bureau makes.

The whole system of patrol is at fault, the report declares, and recommends an entire overhauling of the assignments of patrolmen, either on patrol or on fixed posts.

Fault is also found with the employment of 32 policemen of almost every rank in work that is in no sense police duty. Some of these are employed as chauffeurs, messengers, door tenders, clerks and drivers. The report recommends that civilians be employed to do this work and thus save the city thousands of dollars annually in salaries.

The report says Waldo's statement that there is immediate need for 2,305 policemen is without foundation.

FINEVILLE DEAD REACH 97

Pittsburgh, April 28.—An additional body was taken from the Cincinnati mine of the Monongahela River Consolidated Coal and Coke Company at Fineville, near here to-day, bringing the total dead to date 97, one of whom was a rescuer.

SULZER'S BILL DOOMED

Democratic Senators Agree to Kill Primary Measure.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Albany, April 29 (Tuesday).—At a caucus of the Democratic Senators which began at midnight and lasted until 1 o'clock this morning, it was decided to defeat the Sulzer direct primary bill. There was a warm discussion because some of the Democrats were afraid the Governor would veto their bills and separate their office-holding friends from jobs, as he threatened. But the counsels of the organization men prevailed.

Senator McKnight, who introduced the bill, and Senators O'Keefe, of Nassau; Wende, of Erie, and Duhamel, of Kings, did not go into the caucus.

A conference of Republican Senators decided that the best thing to do regarding workmen's compensation was not to support any bill introduced by the Legislature, but to have a committee investigate the subject. They evidently forgot that a legislative commission headed by Senator Wainwright, Republican, in 1910 reported for a compulsory employers' liability act for a long investigation. This act the Court of Appeals declared unconstitutional.

A caucus of Democratic Assemblymen on the Sulzer direct primary bill broke up at 1:30 o'clock because nobody knew enough of the provisions of the bill to discuss it. So far as the debate showed, Assemblymen Eisner and Goldberg were the only men willing to defend the Governor's bill. Speaker Smith finally advised the members to go home and read the measure and come back prepared to discuss it in the session of the Assembly to-day.

AGAINST LABOR MEN'S BILL

Senate Sub-Committee for Casualty Company Act.

Albany, April 28.—The sub-committee of the Democratic majority of the Senate named to consider the workmen's compensation legislation reported to-night in favor of the Senate Insurance Committee's amended bill as against the Murtough-Jackson measure. The Insurance Committee's bill contains a clause designed to permit employers to insure their employees against injury or death with casualty companies recommended by the State Insurance Department.

The Murtough-Jackson bill, advocated by the State Federation of Labor, does not contain the casualty insurance provision.

SALARY GRAB PUT THROUGH

Bill Boosting Fire Department Telegraphers Passed.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Albany, April 28.—The Assembly put an bill of the New York City salary grab bills up to the Governor to-night by passing the bill of Senator "Christy" Sullivan, providing that men in the telegraph service in the Fire Department shall be placed in the same grades as regular firemen. They are to get the same pay as members of the uniformed force and to benefit from the pension fund, although they contribute nothing to it.

Assemblyman Schaap, Progressive, objected to the bill on the ground that if it were intended to raise the pay of these men the bill should openly say so, and not beat around the bush.

SUNDAY OPENING KILLED

Wagner Measure Sent Into Senate "Morgue."

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Albany, April 28.—On objection of Senator Heacock, from Herkimer County, the Veltz bill giving to the New York City authorities permission to sanction the sale of liquors on Sundays was sent into the Senate "morgue" to-night. This measure is one of those drawn as a result of testimony taken by the Wagner legislative committee on New York City police conditions.

Wagner protested against having the bill sent into the "morgue," as the committee of the whole is termed, at this stage of the session.

DRAPER FUNERAL TO-MORROW

Albany, April 28.—The funeral of Dr. Andrew Sloan Draper, State Commissioner of Education, will be held in the First Presbyterian Church on Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The bearers will be Supreme Court Justice Alden Chester, James F. McElroy, Robert C. Pruyn and William McDonald, Albany; Professor L. P. Breckenridge, Yale University, and Dean Thomas A. Clark, University of Illinois. Honorary bearers will include members of the State Board of Regents and Assistant Commissioners of Education.

ARMY AND NAVY ORDERS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 28.

ORDERS ISSUED.—These army and navy orders have been issued:

ARMY.

Brigadier General WALTER R. SCHUYLER is relieved to home.

Brigadier General CARROLL A. DEVOL, quartermaster corps, from Ithaca National Quartermaster, Washington; report chief quartermaster corps.

Lieutenant Colonel JOHN W. HEARD, 6th Cavalry, detailed in adjutant general's department.

Lieutenant Colonel THOMAS J. LEWIS, adjutant general, assigned 6th Cavalry.

Lieutenant Colonel HEARST, Port San Houston, as adjutant general, Southern department.

Captain FRANK A. LUTZ, 3d Field Artillery, from Military Academy to battery assigned.

Captain CASPER H. CONRAD, Jr., quartermaster corps